

**Tennessee Board of Dentistry
August 12, 2005**

Teleconference Minutes

A teleconference for the Board of Dentistry was held at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room 133 located on the First Floor of the Cordell Hull State Office Building on August 12, 2005.

Members in Attendance electronically: Drs. Eben DeArmond, Harold Fitts, Jeffrey Clark and James Smith and Ms. Katherine Cherry, R.D.H.

Member in attendance: Dr. John Douglass

Staff Present: Dea Smith, Board Manager; Robbie Bell, HRB Director; Juanita Presley, General Counsel

A teleconference was held to summarily suspend the dental license of Kent E. White, DDS on July 22, 2005. This meeting was held to hear the response of Dr. White to the allegations.

A roll call of the board was held to determine if each participant could hear the response of the other. Dr. DeArmond made a motion to proceed to conduct the meeting electronically and Dr. Clark seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. DeArmond to proceed to conduct the meeting electronically by determining that the matter to be discussed met the following requirements: The subject matter requires timely action, the physical presence of all members is not possible considering the period of time required for action, and the participation by some or all the members of the Board by electronic or other means is necessary. Dr. Clark seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously. Ms. Smith reminded the members to please identify themselves when speaking. Dr. DeArmond made the motion, seconded by Dr. Clark, that Dr. Douglass retain chairmanship for the electronic meeting since he was the chairman in the summary suspension hearing held July 22, 2005. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Ms. Presley addressed the board and reminded the board that they are charged with protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Dr. White appeared before the board electronically and without an attorney, gave a brief statement thanking the board for allowing him to address the board. He explained his past and that he had relapsed due to problems from surgery in March of this year. He informed the board that he had been using at night and did not feel that he was impaired when he saw patients and that he had rescheduled patients during this time on numerous occasions. He told the board that on May 4th, he had confessed to his staff and had called Cumberland Heights and Dr. Goodrich, with the Concerned Dental Professionals Committee. He entered Cumberland Heights on May 4th and was released on June 3rd at which time he learned that he was being investigated. He

confessed that he relapsed again 7 to 10 days later and that he went to California for treatment until July 10th. He then relapsed again due to stress in his personal life but that he had been substance free for the last few weeks. He told the board that he is scheduled to enter Talbott's in Atlanta for treatment on the 16th of this month.

Dr. DeArmond made the motion, seconded by Dr. Fitts, that the suspension remain in effect until after treatment then appear before the full board. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

The board then reviewed the Order of Summary Suspension Review prepared by Mr. Thomas Miller, attorney for the state. Dr. DeArmond made the motion that the Tennessee Board of Dentistry hereby orders that the suspension of the dental license of Kent E. White, D.D.S., license number 7094, entered on July 22, 2005, shall remain in effect. Dr. Clark seconded the motion and a roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Dr. Fitts made the motion that said suspension shall remain in effect indefinitely, or until the matter is presented to the Board, pursuant to a Notice of Charges filed by the Department of Health. Dr. Clark seconded the motion and a roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Dr. Fitts made the motion that the Respondent may not practice dentistry, and may not accept any new patients pending resolution of this matter at hearing. The Respondent shall immediately refer all existing patients in need of treatment to other appropriate practitioners. Dr. DeArmond seconded the motion and a roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Dr. DeArmond made the motion that the Respondent is given notice that he may request a formal hearing before the Board, to be held under the contested case provisions of TENN. CODE ANN. § 4-5-301, et seq. Dr. Clark seconded the motion and a roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Dr. Fitts made the motion that Pursuant to TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-5-124(k) and Rule 0880-2-.12(1)(j) of the Official Compilation of the Rules and Regulations of the State of Tennessee, Respondent is hereby ordered to pay all costs allowable by law associated with the prosecution of this action, including all costs assessed against the Board by the Division's Bureau of Investigations in connection with the prosecution of this matter, for which execution may issue if necessary. Dr. DeArmond seconded the motion and a roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

These minutes were ratified by the Board on September 21, 2005.